Techniques to Drafting a Paper

References

- Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL). *Developing an Outline*. Purdue University On-line, found at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/544/1/
- Capital Community College Foundation. *Outlining.* Capital Community College On-line found at: http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/composition/brainstorm_outline.htm
- Study Guides and Strategies. *Index*. Capital Community College On-line found at: http://www.studygs.net/index.htm

Preparation

1. Read the evaluative requirements…again
2. Set Microsoft grammar check
3. Set Word document for endnotes
4. Create an outline
5. Begin your paper drafting

Introduction

I. Introduction

1. Summarize critical thinking theses from Peter A. Facione, Colonel Stephen J. Gerras, and Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder.
2. Outline why critical thinking is an important attribute in strategic leadership;
3. Assess critical thinking application to the DDE program study to enhance personal development in strategic leadership.

This expository essay will briefly summarize theses from three articles on critical thinking. In addition, the essay will outline why critical thinking is an important attribute in strategic leadership. Finally, the essay will assess critical thinking application to the DDE program study to enhance personal development in strategic leadership.

This expository essay will briefly summarize theses from Peter A. Facione, Colonel Stephen J. Gerras, and Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder on critical thinking. In addition, the essay will outline why critical thinking is an important attribute in strategic leadership. Finally, the essay will assess critical thinking application to the DDE program study to enhance personal development in strategic leadership.

Key Ideas

II. Key Idea 1

Summary of critical thinking theses from Peter A. Facione, Colonel Stephen J. Gerras, and Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder.

- Evidence example 1
- Evidence example 2
- Transition

I. Key Idea 2

Why critical thinking is an important attribute in Strategic Leadership

- Evidence example 1
- Evidence example 2
- Transition

V. Key Idea 3

Assessment of critical thinking application to the DDE program study to enhance personal development in strategic leadership.

- Evidence example 1
- Evidence example 2
- Transition

Key Idea #1

Summary of critical thinking theses from Peter A. Facione, Colonel Stephen J. Gerras, and Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder.

Critical Thinking (CT) is a technique thoroughly described in three articles by Peter A. Facione, Colonel Stephen J. Gerras, and Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder. In the first article, Facione outlines consensus from an International group of experts in answering his opening question, "What is critical thinking and why is it considered so useful and important?" [1] Gerras analyzes the concept of CT, and makes suggestions for how the Army can close the gap between the need to develop critical thinkers and what is actually happening. [2] The last article by Paul and Elder is a useful guide that details the concepts and tools related to critical thinking. [3] These theses describe the importance of CT to strategic leadership. To further understand why CT is an important strategic leader attribute, the definition of strategic leadership must be understood.

Key Idea #2

Why critical thinking is an important attribute in Strategic Leadership

Field Manual (FM) 22-100 defines strategic leaders as experts in their own domain (war fighting) and astute in the departmental and political environments of the nation's decision–making process. [4] While all three articles identified principles and described concepts within CT, Gerras describes CT attributes from a military perspective, more aligned with the strategic leader definition as depicted in FM 22-100. Gerras indicated the importance for the strategic leader to identify viable creative solutions to real problems, empathize with other points of view, and empower subordinates to contribute to MDMP. [5] Strategic leaders must have the ability to prepare for the uncertainty from asymmetric threats by ensuring that conceptual and organizational adaptability and flexibility is maximized through CT. [6] This best sums up why CT is an important attribute to Strategic Leadership.

In addition to CT as an important attribute to Strategic Leadership, it is the basis for student application in the DDE program and personal development.

Key Idea #3

Assessment of critical thinking application to the DDE program study to enhance personal development in strategic leadership.

CT applied to the DDE program will enhance professional development as a strategic leader; however, the transition to CT may be difficult. Gerras points out that the CT model is not a sequential process. [7] The challenge for many military professionals is to overcome the long-ingrained notion that military education is primarily, a sequential process. After many years of sequential training, the USAWC DDE student must now acquire skills to think as a strategic leader in order to logically assess the quality of one's thinking and the thinking of others to consistently arrive at greater understanding and achieve wise judgments. [8] The USAWC DDE first year program of study will provide multiple opportunities to exercise and improve student's skills on CT. CT applied correctly in course assignments, will reduce egocentric and ethnocentric thinking, validate assumptions and inferences, and reduce logical fallacies, heuristics, biases and traps. Successful application of CT within the USAWC DDE study program will aid the understanding of short and long-term consequences during the decision-making process.

Conclusion

CT is very important to the Strategic Leader. The outcome of educating ourselves in CT techniques when making strategic decisions is a controlled process that can lead to reflective skepticism. Thus, the CT goal for the strategic leaders means avoiding poor outcomes from hasty and uninformed decisions. [9]

Review

1. Read the evaluative requirements…again
2. Set Microsoft grammar check
3. Set Word document for endnotes
4. Complete your outline
5. Complete your paper draft

-Introduction (62 words)

-Main Body with 3 Key Idea paragraphs (439 words

-Conclusion (49 words)